

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ATHENS 06918 091231Z

65S

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 091127Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5413

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T ATHENS 6918

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO BITSIOS: TURKISH SEISMIC VESSEL  
IN THE AEGEAN

REF: STATE 166402

1. IN MY MEETING LAST NIGHT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS  
I READ TO HIM ALOUD THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE CONCERNING  
THE TURKISH SEISMIC VESSEL IN THE AEGEAN, AS CONTAINED  
PARAGRAPHS TWO AND THREE OF REFTEL.

2. BITSIOS SAID HE WANTED TO THANK THE SECRETARY "VERY  
VERY WARMLY" FOR HIS MESSAGE AND FOR ALL HE HAS DONE  
ON THIS MATTER. BITSIOS SAID THE SITUATION  
HAS CALMED DOWN CONSIDERABLY IN THE AEGEAN IN THE LAST FEW  
DAYS AND THAT HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT THIS WAS DUE TO THE  
INTERVENTION IN ANKARA BY THE USG AND "OTHER FRIENDS".  
BITSIOS SAID HE WAS RELIEVED TO LEARN  
OF THE ASSURANCES THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAD GIVEN  
THAT IT HAD NO DESIRE TO TEST THE WILL OF GREECE NOR  
TO PROVOKE CONFRONTATION. HE SAID TO TELL THE SECRETARY  
THAT THE U.S. COULD RELY UPON THE GREEK GOVERNMENT  
TO "BE VERY RESTRAINED AND MODERATE" IN ITS OWN  
APPROACH TO THE SITUATION.

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3. BITSIOS WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE IS NOW IN "VERY CLOSE

TOUCH" WITH GAGLAYANGIL AND THAT THE TWO OF THEM HAVE BEEN ABLE TO "SMOOTH THINGS OUT" TO SOME EXTENT. HE SAID HE WAS TRYING TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TWO OF THEM TO MEET IN THE NOT-TOO-DISTANT FUTURE AND THAT THEY HAD VIRTUALLY REACHED AGREEMENT FOR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO MEET AGAIN IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THE AEGEAN AIR SPACE PROBLEM.  
KUBISCH

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
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